

I oppose the continued consolidation of broadcast media into the hands of a few giant conglomerates. As a musician, I decry the lack of variety now heard on corporate owned radio stations throughout this nation and the death of individual disk jockeys with creative control over what they play and the ability to showcase new performers and musical styles.

As a citizen, I also lament the growing control of broadcast news that presents a single voice and spin reflecting the political agenda of the controlling corporation. The director of the FCC has publicly stated that he thinks this is OK because of the variety of Web based sites and "blogs" that do present a diversity of views. He is correct in this Web based diversity, but overestimates the impact that these alternatives have on the general public. Most people still watch CNN or Fox for their daily news and read their daily newspapers. When those sources all begin to speak on behalf of one political agenda due to common ownership and direction, we are headed for a severe compromise of our basic American freedoms, which are already under attack by the current administration.